

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 05809 01 OF 02 301740Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 MCT-01 SY-05 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 HA-05 EB-08
COME-00 /081 W
-----044202 302038Z /45

O R 301512Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1688
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL FLORENCE
DIA
AMCONSUL GENOA
AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL PALERMO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
SHAPEUSNR
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMCONSUL TRIESTE POUCH
AMCONSUL TURIN POUCH
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY
USDOCOSOUTH
USMISSION USNATO
AFOSI DIST 65 ROME IT/IVOA
HQ AFOSI WASHDC/IVOAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 ROME 5809

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJ: MORO KIDNAPPING--THIRD BRIGATE ROSSE MESSAGE

SUMMARY: A THIRD MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTORS OF CHRISTIAN
DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DC) PRESIDENT MORO SURFACED IN FOUR
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PAGE 02 ROME 05809 01 OF 02 301740Z

ITALIAN CITIES ON MARCH 29. THE MESSAGE PLATED IN ROME
HAD ATTACHED TO IT A LETTER ALMOST CERTAINLY WRITTEN IN
MORO'S HAND. IN HIS LETTER, OBVIOUSLY WRITTEN UNDER
DURESS, MORO RAISES THE IDEA OF AN EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.
MEANWHILE, THE AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT COME UP WITH
ANY INFORMATION WHICH WOULD LEAD THEM CLOSER TO A
SOLUTION OF THE KIDNAPPING. END SUMMARY.

1. THE BRIGATE ROSSE (BR) RELEASED THEIR THIRD MESSAGE REGARDING THE MORO KIDNAPPING ON MARCH 29. COPIES OF THE MESSAGE, TOGETHER WITH A HANDWRITTEN LETTER FROM CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENT MORO TO MINISTER OF INTERIOR COSSIGA, WERE FOUND ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY IN ROME, MILAN, TURIN, AND GENOA ON THE BASIS OF TELEPHONE CALLS TO FOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPERS. THE BR MESSAGE WAS DIVIDED INTO THREE PARTS. THE FIRST REPORTED ON THE SO-CALLED TRIAL OF ALDO MORO, THE PREPARATIONS FOR WHICH ARE GOING ON QUOTE WITH THE FULL COLLABORATION OF THE PRISONER END QUOTE. ACCORDING TO THE MESSAGE, MORO IS PROVIDING QUOTE ILLUMINATING RESPONSES END QUOTE REGARDING THE THIRTY YEARS OF DC RULE WHICH HAVE SEEN THE CREATION OF A COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY REGIME IN ITALY. THE MESSAGE ADDS THAT QUOTE THE CAPTURE AND THE TRIAL OF ALDO MORO IS NOTHING LESS THAN A MOMENT, IMPORTANT AND CLARIFYING, OF THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTIONARY CLASS THAT THE ARMED COMMUNIST FORCES HAVE ASSUMED AS THE LINE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A COMMUNIST SOCIETY AND THAT POINTS AS THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE TO THE IMPERIALIST STATE AND TO THE LIQUIDATION OF THE DIRTY AND CORRUPT CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC REGIME END QUOTE.

3. THE SECOND PART OF THE MESSAGE CARRIES THE FULL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 ROME 05809 01 OF 02 301740Z

TEXT OF THE LETTER FROM MORO TO COSSIGA. THE ORIGINAL OF THE HANDWRITTEN LETTER WAS APPENDED TO THE MESSAGE LEFT IN ROME AND FOUND ONLY A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE DC'S HEADQUARTERS AT PIAZZA DEL GESU. IN THE LETTER, WHICH VIRTUALLY ALL BOSERVERS ARE CERTAIN IS WRITTEN IN MORO'S HAND, THE DC PRESIDENT NOTES THAT HE IS UNAWARE OF EVENTS THAT HAVE TRANSPIRED SINCE HIS KIDNAPPING ALTHOUGH HE NOTES THAT HE IS QUOTE A POLITICAL PRISONER, SUBJECTED, AS PRESIDENT OF THE DC, TO A TRIAL DIRECTED AT ASCERTAINING HIS 30 YEAR RESPONSIBILITY (A TRIAL LIMITED NOW IN POLITICAL TERMS THAT BECOME CONSTANTLY NARROWER) END QUOTE. MORO ASKS HIS COLLEAGUES TO REFLECT ON WHAT SHOULD BE DONE QUOTE TO AVOID WORSE DIFFICULTIES END QUOTE AND SUGGESTS THAT THEY AVOID SACRIFICING MORE INNOCENT PEOPLE QUOTE IN THE NAME OF AN ABSTRACT PRINCIPLE OF LEGALITY END QUOTE. MORO THEN TOUCHES UPON THE IDEA OF AN EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS REFERRING TO THE FACT THAT ALL NATIONS OF THE WORLD WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ISRAEL AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF PETER LORENZ) HAVE

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PAGE 01 ROME 05809 02 OF 02 302052Z
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COME-00 /081 W

-----048563 302100Z /62

O R 301512Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1689
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL FLORENCE
DIA
AMCONSUL GENOA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL PALERMO
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 ROME 5809

VIEWED SUCH ACTION POSITIVELY. HIS LETTER POINTS
TO THE PRISONER EXCHANGE BETWEEN BREZHNEV (BUKOVSKIY) AND
PINOCHET (CORVALAN), TO THE NUMEROUS EXCHANGES OF SPIES,
AND TO THE EXPULSION OF DISSIDENTS FROM THE SOVIET
UNION TO ADD WEIGHT TO THE ARGUMENT. MORO ADDS QUOTE I UNDER-
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PAGE 02 ROME 05809 02 OF 02 302052Z

STAND HOW A FACT OF THIS NATURE, WHEN IT IS OUTLINED,
WEIGHS, BUT ONE MUST LOOK LUCIDLY AT THE WORST WHICH
CAN OCCUR. THESE ARE THE ALTERNATE VISSITIDES OF A
GUERRILLA WHICH ONE MUST EVALUATE WITH COLDNESS BLOCKING
EMOTIONALITY AND REFLECTING ON POLITICAL FACTS.
END QUOTE. THE LETTER THEN GOES ON TO SAY THAT A QUOTE
PREVENTIVE STEP END QUOTE MIGHT BE MADE BY THE
VATICAN OR SOMEONE ELSE.

4. THE FINAL PART OF THE LETTER IS ADDRESSED TO
BR SYMPATHIZERS. THEY ARE ADVISED THAT IN THIS
HISTORIC PHASE QUOTE THE PRACTICE OF REVOLUTIONARY
VIOLENCE IS THE ONLY POLICY THAT HAS THE REAL POSSIBILITY
TO CONFRONT AND TO RESOLVE THE ANTAGONISTIC CONTRADICTIONS
WHICH PIT THE METROPOLITAN PROLETARIAT AGAINST THE
BOURGEOIS IMPERIALIST. END QUOTE.

5. MEANWHILE, THE INVESTIGATION OF THE KIDNAPPING
CONTINUES WITHOUT LETUP. BASED ON INFORMATION WE HAVE
RECEIVED FROM A VARIETY OF SOURCES, IT APPEARS THAT
THE AUTHORITIES HAVE NO INFORMATION WHICH BRINGS THEM
NEARER TO SOLVING THIS DRAMATIC EPISODE.

6. COMMENT. WHILE THERE HAS BEEN SOME SPECULATION
IN THE LAST 48 HOURS THAT THE PHOTOGRAPH CONTAINED IN
THE FIRST BR MESSAGE WAS DOCTORED, ON ONE IS QUESTIONING
THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE LATEST MESSAGE NOR OF THE
LETTER FROM MORO. (POLICE AUTHORITIES HAVE DENIED THE
SPECULATION ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPH, CLAIMING THAT IT IS
NOT A MONTAGE.) NOW THAT A LETTER IN MORO'S HAND
HAS BEEN RECEIVED, THERE IS GENERAL DEPRESSION OVER
THE LANGUAGE WHICH HIS CAPTORS HAVE OBLIGED HIM TO
USE. FOR IT IS MORO THAT IS PLACED IN THE HUMILIATING
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PAGE 03 ROME 05809 02 OF 02 302052Z

POSITION OF ASKING HIS COLLEAGUES TO CONSIDER
THE IDEA OF EXCHANGING HIM PRESUMABLY FOR IMPRISONED
MEMBERS OF THE BR RATHER THAN THE BR CAPTORS OF MORO
ASKING IT DIRECTLY. IN FACT, THERE IS NOT ONE
MENTION OF THE IDEA OF AN EXCHANGE IN THE
THREE BR MESSAGES THUS FAR RECEIVED. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, CHRISTIANS, DOCUMENTS, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ROME05809
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780138-1025
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978038/aaaaagmj.tel
Line Count: 215
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 66d518c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3364796
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORO KIDNAPPING--THIRD BRIGATE ROSSE MESSAGE SUMMARY: A THIRD MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTORS OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DC) PRESIDENT MORO SURFACED IN F
TAGS: PINT, IT, DC, (MORO, ALDO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/66d518c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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